

REMARKS

Receipt of the Office Action mailed September 13, 2000 is acknowledged. Claims 9 and 10 have been amended. Claims 1-4, and 5-19 are pending. Entry of the forgoing amendments and favorable reconsideration are earnestly solicited.

Claims 1-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as allegedly being indefinite. Claims 1-7, 11-14 and 15-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Scholze et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,238,590) (hereinafter "Scholze '590"). Claims 1-2, 4, 6, 15 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Scholze et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,374,933) (hereinafter "Scholze '933").

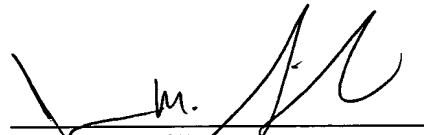
Claims 9 and 10 were rejected for failing to have adequate antecedent basis. These claims have been further amended herein to clarify that the compound of the formula (VI) as set forth in these claims is a specific embodiment of the formula set forth as formula (IV) in claim 1. As can be seen at pages 17 and 18 of the specification, the formula (VI) in claims 9 and 10 is identical to the formula (IV') described on page 18 of the specification, which is a particular embodiment of the formula (IV). Accordingly, the formula (VI) as set forth in claims 9 and 10 has proper antecedent support from formula (IV) in claim 1, from which these claims depend.

For this reason, and the reasons set forth in the February 13, 2001 response, these rejections are respectfully traversed. For brevity, the arguments set forth in the February 13, 2001 response are not being reiterated herein.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully urged that the present claims are in condition for allowance. An early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. Should there be any questions, Examiner Fortuna is courteously invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number shown below.

Respectfully submitted,

May 7, 2001
Date


James M. Silbermann
Reg. No. 40,413

FOLEY & LARDNER
3000 K Street, N.W.
Suite 500
Washington, D. C. 20007-5109
(202) 672-5300

Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper, or if a petition for extension of time is required for timely acceptance of same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 19-0741 for any such fees; and applicant(s) hereby petition for any needed extension of time.

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Marked up rewritten claims:

9. (2x amended) The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein said liquid **[further]** comprises at least one polycondensate derived from at least one compound of formula VI, having the structure:

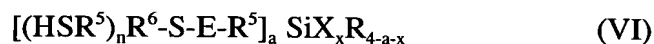


wherein

- E = -CO-NH-, -CS-NH-, -CH₂-CH₂- or -CH₂-CH(OH)-;
- R = alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, alkylaryl or arylalkyl comprising between 1 to 15 carbon atoms, further optionally comprising an atom or group selected from the group consisting of oxygen atom, sulfur atom, ester, carbonyl, carboxyl, amido, and amino;
- R⁵ = alkylene, arylene, arylenealkylene or alkylenearylene comprising between 1 to 15 carbon atoms, wherein optionally one or more radicals is interrupted by an atom or group selected from the group consisting of oxygen atom, sulfur atom, ester, carbonyl, carboxyl, amido, and amino;
- R⁶ = alkylene, arylene, arylenealkylene or alkylenearylene comprising between 1 to 15 carbon atoms, wherein optionally one or more radicals is interrupted by an atom or group selected from the group consisting of oxygen atom, sulfur atom, ester, carbonyl, carboxyl, amido, and amino;
- X = hydrogen, halogen, hydroxyl, alkoxy, acyloxy, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl or NR''₂, where R'' = hydrogen, alkyl, aryl or alkylaryl;
- a = 1, 2 or 3;
- n = 2, 3, 4 or 5;
- x = 1, 2 or 3, where a + x = 2, 3 or 4.

10. (2x amended) The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein said liquid comprises polycondensates comprising at least one compound selected from the group consisting of a compound according to formula II or III wherein radical B has at least one

acrylate or methacrylate group, and [further] comprises a compound according to the formula VI



wherein

- E = -CO-NH-, -CS-NH-, -CH₂-CH₂- or - CH₂-CH(OH)-;
- R = alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, alkylaryl or arylalkyl comprising between 1 to 15 carbon atoms, further optionally comprising an atom or group selected from the group consisting of oxygen atom, sulfur atom, ester, carbonyl, carboxyl, amido, and amino;
- R⁵ = alkylene, arylene, arylenealkylene or alkylenearylene comprising between 1 to 15 carbon atoms, wherein optionally one or more radicals is interrupted by an atom or group selected from the group consisting of oxygen atom, sulfur atom, ester, carbonyl, carboxyl, amido, and amino;
- R⁶ = alkylene, arylene, arylenealkylene or alkylenearylene comprising between 1 to 15 carbon atoms, wherein optionally one or more radicals is interrupted by an atom or group selected from the group consisting of oxygen atom, sulfur atom, ester, carbonyl, carboxyl, amido, and amino;
- X = hydrogen, halogen, hydroxyl, alkoxy, acyloxy, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl or NR''₂, where R'' = hydrogen, alkyl, aryl or alkylaryl;
- a = 1, 2 or 3;
- n = 2, 3, 4 or 5;
- x = 1, 2 or 3, where a + x = 2, 3 or 4.